

process of impeachment, and I have filed H. Res. 1106 in the House of Representatives.

To my fellow Americans, as I leave this Congress, it is in your hands—to hold your representatives accountable, and to show those with the courage to stand for what is right, that they do not stand alone.

#### TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN MIKE SODREL

##### HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor and privilege to serve with MIKE SODREL during his tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives. Plain spoken and determined, MIKE spent his time in Congress working hard for Indiana's Ninth Congressional District.

MIKE's success in the trucking industry was brilliantly translated into a multitude of valuable contributions during his tenure on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. His vast knowledge of transportation issues served him well to promote needed for roadway improvements and expansion throughout the district and the Nation.

MIKE SODREL's expertise and service was not limited to transportation, but extended to three other committees—befitting not only his past experiences but the interests of Indiana—Agriculture, Science, and Small Business. MIKE played a crucial role as a member of each committee, using his keen insight to promote issues important to Indiana, such as research and development projects, alternative energy sources such as E-85, and hosting two successful job fairs with me in Bloomington.

Although his time in Congress was short, MIKE SODREL's imprint on the 20 counties comprising the Ninth District will be felt for years to come. His heart and mind were always in tune with the Hoosiers back home and in concert with the welfare of this great Nation that he had the great honor and responsibility of representing.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER A. ANDERSON

##### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a very heavy heart and I wish to ask the Members in this Chamber to join me before we end the 109th session of Congress tonight in honoring a fallen sailor from Longmont, Colorado.

This week, Hospitalman Christopher A. Anderson was killed in action while serving our Nation in Iraq. He was a patriot that believed strongly in the freedoms we enjoy here in America and he joined the Navy to help defend the rights of citizens in Iraq.

I have contacted his family, and they are heartbroken about their loss, undoubtedly. They are to be admired for their courage and continued dedication to America's military forces who are fighting terrorists in the Middle East. As a mother of an enlisted sailor, my heart goes out to Christopher's family.

I would like to take a solemn moment to reflect on the life of Christopher and share the thoughts of his parents Rick and Debra Anderson. They released the following statement:

Christopher was a son of which any parent would be proud. He was a natural leader in the truest sense: warm, giving, thoughtful and caring. He went well out of his way to assist family, friends and neighbors with everything from the sweat of his brow to sound advice that many commented held wisdom beyond his years. He was consistently elevated to leadership positions by his actions.

This same thought process was at work when he chose to join the U.S. Navy. Chris comes from generations of Navy men and women. I myself am retired Navy. The Navy is, in general, an exciting career, however Christopher was not content to settle for anything less than being at the tip of the spear. He chose the career path of Hospital Corpsman (the Navy equivalent to a Medic in the other services). He requested the additional training of a Combat Medic, and to be assigned to the front lines with the United States Marine Corps. The Marine Corps does not have their own medical personnel, and Navy Sailors fill that role on a voluntary basis.

He was an "encourager", and "uplifter" with a truly unique ability to empower others to rise to success they themselves did not think possible. He attracted many, many close friends into his circle. These are fine young men and women, who I was proud to be introduced to and invite into my home.

In August of 2005, Christopher joined the Navy. While in Longmont awaiting his formal Navy school start date, he aggressively pursued high visibility leadership positions within his group of peers attached to the Longmont Navy Recruiting Office. Chris was already a good athlete, but chose to compete with the Navy SEAL candidates for even greater athletic excellence. He additionally excelled in his Navy-oriented academics, and was ultimately promoted from E-1 to E-3 before ever leaving for the Recruit Training Center (Boot Camp).

Once at Boot Camp he again excelled in academics, athletics and leadership, completing the program as the "Honor Graduate" the number one person in his class, as voted on by both his peers and the senior staff. He then attended his actual Hospital Corpsman medical training, "A" School, followed by Advanced Combat Medical Training, "C" School. Working with experienced combat veterans, he reaffirmed his desire to provide a critical service to those in harms way. He knew full well that he too would be at the forefront of the action.

Christopher deployed to Iraq in September of this year. The moment his aircraft's door opened to the 120 degree heat, he knew this would be the start of his greatest challenge. He loved the people of this country, however he began to see immediate action, and was soon credited by senior medical staff for saving the life of a Marine sergeant seriously wounded on patrol by an improvised explosive device (IED).

Christopher earned the affectionate title of "Doc." This title is only given to Navy Hospital Corpsmen who have impressed their U.S. Marine Corps counterparts with medical excellence under field combat conditions. His colonel also credited him with the compliment, "The most squared away 'Marine' we have in this Unit."

Christopher gave his life in the defense of his nation, his local community, his Marine brethren and his family. Christopher wanted all his life to make a difference in this world and in his short 24 years accomplished more than most will ever accomplish in a lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, we are so fortunate to live in this great country where free-

dom is something that we rarely have to think about and often take for granted. It is simply a way of life for us, and we are truly blessed to live in a country that honors citizens for their spirit, their ideas, their individuality, and their courage. We can maintain the blessings of our freedoms only because we have citizens like Hospitalman Christopher A. Anderson who are willing to fight to defend them for us. My most sincere condolences go out to Rick and Debra and the entire Anderson family for loss of their beloved son.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO MITCH FOX

##### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Mitch Fox for his outstanding career and innovative contributions in broadcast and print journalism.

Mitch began his broadcasting career at KABC-TV Los Angeles as an intern and later apprenticed there as a cameraman. Less than 2 years later in 1976, Mitch relocated to Las Vegas where he began his first on-air reporting position with KTNV Channel 13. During his tenure in Las Vegas he has also served as a freelance writer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal, the Las Vegas Sun, Newsweek and Nevada Magazine.

Mitch began covering the Nevada State Legislature in 1979 and currently produces a weekly series entitled "Capitol Issues" during Nevada's biannual legislative session. He has also moderated several candidates' debates, some of which air nationally on C-SPAN. Mitch initiated collaboration with the Las Vegas Review-Journal where RJ readers were able to post candidate questions on the newspaper's website for use during Channel 10's election debates and since 1996, he has brought KLVX and the NBC affiliate KVBC together to produce prime-time election coverage.

It was 1978 when Mitch embarked on his long broadcast career in public television at KLVX Channel 10. He began as senior news and public affairs producer and was later promoted to news and public affairs manager in November 1997. Five years later, in June 2002, Mitch was further promoted as director of production services at KLVX where he supervised the entire programming department, including the oversight of 30 full-time and part-time employees. In this position he has also managed oversight of Channel 10 and Cox Cable Channel 70 programming schedules. In July of 2005, Mitch became director of programming at KLVX and has helped to ensure that the station remains well-versed in use of digital media such as video-on-demand, multicasting, podcasting and online streaming.

For 11 years Mitch produced the award-winning documentary series called "Real to Reel" and won an Emmy nomination in 1993 for a documentary on nuclear waste. And now for nearly 20 years Mitch has been host and producer of the popular public affairs talk show, "Nevada Week in Review" providing viewers with insightful debate, discussion, and analysis of the most important Nevada news stories of

the week. One of his goals in serving as a leader in public television has been to creatively provide a quality alternative to commercial television. Not only has Mitch Fox worked to build bridges within the broadcast community, but he has also helped lower the high school drop-out rate over the past 20 years by assisting the Clark County School District in developing distance learning programs for K-12 students.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to my friend Mitch Fox for his longstanding service and dedication to the public broadcasting system and to the communities of Nevada. I wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.

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HONORING ALBERT RANDEL  
HENDRIX

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, an enduring member of Mississippi's healthcare community will soon be retiring from his position as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health. Dr. Albert Randel Hendrix has contributed decades of time, energy, and passion into serving his community, State, and individuals with mental health needs. Mississippi will miss his service.

Dr. Randy Hendrix is a native Mississippian, born and educated in Panola County. He served in our armed forces in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. Following his Army discharge, Dr. Hendrix returned to Mississippi to complete graduate studies at the University of Mississippi, where he completed his Master's Degree in 1971, and at the University of Southern Mississippi, where he completed his doctoral degree in 1979. Dr. Hendrix has completed the Executive Education Program at Duke University, the Executive Development Institute of the John C. Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, and the Certified Public Managers Program.

He began his professional career with the Department of Mental Health at Ellisville State School in 1971. In 1975, Dr. Hendrix was appointed Director of the North Mississippi Regional Center in Oxford, Mississippi. At the age of 28, he was the youngest director of a major facility in the Nation. While in Oxford, he was also a professor of Special Education and an adjunct professor in Healthcare Administration at the University of Mississippi. In November of 1986, Dr. Hendrix assumed responsibilities as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, the State's largest agency. Dr. Hendrix is the longest serving Executive Director of Mental Health services in the Nation and will be retiring soon.

During his career with the Department of Mental Health, Dr. Hendrix has served on many Boards and Commissions including Chairman of the Mississippi Developmental Disabilities Council, member on the Governor's Council on Aging, and is currently the chairman and longest serving member of the Mississippi Board of Rehabilitative Services, past chairman and member of the State Inter-agency Coordinating Council for Children and Youth with Severe Emotional Problems, Member of the Mississippi Disability Resource

Commission, Children's Trust Fund Advisory Council and Statewide CDC Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Planning Advisory Committee. He is a member and former officer of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, Board Member of the Association of Mental Health Administrators since 1987, and has served as Executive Director for the Mississippi Arts Fair for the Handicapped since 1980.

Dr. Hendrix was selected as State Administrator of the Year, Herman C. Glazier Award Winner in 1990, recipient of the Agency Leadership Award of the National Association of Superintendents of Public Residential Facilities for the Mentally Retarded in 1992, recipient of the Governor's Stennis Award for Excellence in Government in 1994, and selected for Honorary Membership in Pi Alpha Alpha in 1997. Dr. Hendrix is also a member of the Honorary Scholastic Organization of Phi Theta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Delta Kappa.

Dr. Hendrix and his wife, Sandy, are the parents of 4 children, Jo Ellen Hendrix Townsend, Sarah, Randel, and Sandra and the grandparents of Grace, Jessica and Jeffrey Townsend.

For over 30 years, Dr. Hendrix has used his talent, knowledge, and skills to make Mississippi a better place and enhance the care of individuals with mental health concerns. We thank him for his service and know that even after his retirement, he will continue to be a pillar of his community and his State.

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TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
LANE EVANS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2006*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Congressman LANE EVANS, who is retiring after serving this institution honorably for 24 years.

As Ranking Member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Rep. EVANS has served not only his 17th District constituents, but he has also been the voice for veterans nationwide. As a Marine and Vietnam veteran, Rep. EVANS had a deep and abiding understanding of veterans' issues and a keen sense of the unique issues affecting Vietnam veterans, like Agent Orange. He has been a tireless advocate for improving veterans' health care and benefits and was not afraid to challenge the Veterans Administration if he thought they were short-changing veterans' programs, particularly VA services for homeless veterans.

He shone a bright light on the horrific problems of antipersonnel land mines and authored the first law prohibiting the export of landmines which ultimately led to the awarding of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize to the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines. His legacy on landmines has saved countless lives around the globe.

It is with a heavy heart that I bid farewell to Rep. LANE EVANS, one of the most dedicated and principled public servants that I have ever had the privilege to serve with. Semper Fi.

HONORING DR. PATRICK  
MCKIERNAN

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Patrick McKiernan, a remarkable public servant and advocate from my home State of Kentucky. Dr. McKiernan presently serves as Outreach Coordinator to Homeless Veterans for the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs.

Tragically, more than 1,000 veterans will be sleeping on the streets of Kentucky tonight. Dr. McKiernan recognizes that there is something fundamentally wrong when individuals who once wore the uniform of the United States are forced by circumstances to live on the streets. Under his compassionate leadership, the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs continues to work to establish special assistance programs to help get veterans off the streets and into housing or treatment facilities.

Dr. McKiernan represents his agency on the Kentucky Council on Homeless Policy, advising the Governor and his staff on homelessness and housing issues across the state. He also represents Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs at the annual conference of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans in Washington, DC, and the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky.

In addition to his current work and responsibilities, Dr. McKiernan is developing plans to establish the Homeless Veterans Coordination Committee to provide additional guidance and support to help homeless veterans.

Dr. McKiernan's colleagues, and countless veterans touched by his exemplary work, note his unique ability to navigate bureaucracy and successfully resolve casework with unusual expedience. Recently, Dr. McKiernan intervened in a case involving a veteran afflicted with esophageal cancer who nearly became homeless due to the financial challenges of his illness. Because of his efforts, an American hero is receiving the care and assistance that he deserves. This is but one example in a long career of helping others.

It is my great honor to recognize Dr. Patrick McKiernan today before my assembled colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives. His leadership and service make him an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and appreciation.

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RECOGNIZING MARK CLEMONS

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a business in my district that is taking a positive step forward to assist families and our troops overseas.

Mark Clemons operates the PakMail facility in my district in Newnan, and he has taken up a special project for our troops and their families overseas. Any time anyone wants to send a package to Iraq to a soldier, Mark makes sure that they do not have to pay for it.

Mark has taken it as a special project to ensure our heroes overseas receive the care